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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT
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CD NO.

COUNTRY Panama/Cuba

SUBJECT Panamanian Delegates to Inter-American Conference for Democracy and Liberty
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SOURCE

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1. The attached copy of a report on the Inter-American Conference for Democracy and Liberty (Habana, Cuba - 12, 13, and 14 May 1950) is furnished for your information and retention.

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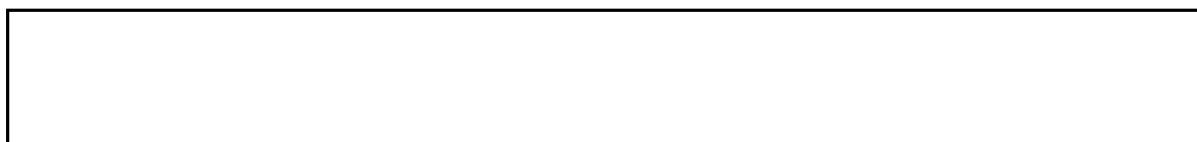
8 May 1950.

INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE FOR DEMOCRACY AND LIBERTY

(Havana, Cuba - May 12, 13, and 14, 1950)

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2. An article appearing in the 4 May issue of LA HOJA contained the following statement reportedly issued by the American Committee for Defense of Democracy (Junta Americana de Defensa de la Democracia), sponsoring organization of subject Conference:

"The military dictators who promote the spirit of war, who awaken expansionist ideas, and who unbalance national budgets with extravagant war expenditures, sooner or later conduct the people to the fratricide of combat. For that reason, this generous democratic movement which we promote has as its essential purpose the accentuation of the sentiments of brotherhood, and struggles not only for political emancipation and for democratic ideals, but also for the economic emancipation of Man in America. The declaration that without social justice there can be no preservation of international peace and democratic regimes, is a truth already demonstrated by the reality of history. We condemn all forms of capitalistic exploitation and imperialistic infiltration with the same energy that we combat the preachers of Communism which wishes to reduce man to a dull mechanism in the monstrous machinery of a state without moral conscience. The exploited or oppressed men of all the countries of the continent should, in the final analysis, be the reason for the struggle for social and political redemption in which all authentically democratic forces are engaged."

3. The newspaper article continued with the statement that a large group of Panamanian intellectuals would represent Panama at subject conference, and that the following are among those invited:

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- ✓ José N. LASSO de la Vega ✓
- ✓ Diogenes de la ROSA
- ✓ Clara Gonzales de REHRINGER
- ✓ Miguel Angel ORDOÑEZ
- ✓ Manuel OLIS ✓
- ✓ Jorge I. LUECA ✓
- ✓ Carlos van ZUMICA ✓
- ✓ Cesar UNTIRO ✓
- ✓ Manuel María VALDES
- ✓ Ricardo A. LINCE ✓



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4. A review of the files of this office reveals the following on the above individuals:

José N. LASSO de la Vega -

In biographic data on these persons, since below are in some cases incomplete.
Reported leftist and fellow-traveler. Contributor to the now-defunct LA OPINION, organ of the Partido del Pueblo (Communist) of Panama.

Diogenes de la ROSA -

See file report # 426, 12 May 1950
One of the most important Communist leaders in Panama. Reported to be a close friend of former President Rómulo MEATANCOURT of Venezuela and his present Secretary of Propaganda.

Clara Gonzalez de BEHRINGER -

Self-admitted leftist who has long been under investigation in this area. Known to have attended Party meetings as late as February 1947. Contributor to former Party newspaper. Reported to have been closely associated with Manuel MORA Valverde, Communist leader of Costa Rica, and Vicente LOEBARDO Toledano of Mexico.

Miguel Angel ORDOÑEZ -

Deputy to the National Assembly of Panama. Reportedly ultra-nationalistic. Reported to have been invited to attend the September 1949 Communist Pro-Peace Congress in Mexico City. He is said to have declined the invitation, but offered financial assistance. In October 1949, it was reported that Aprista exiles contacted ORDOÑEZ and two known leftists in Panama.

Manuel SOLIS Palma -

With this, see file report # 426
Important member of the FRENTE PATRIOTICO DE LA JUVENTUD (FPJ), reportedly a Communist-dominated youth organization. On 17 March 1949, was one of the speakers at a demonstration protesting the expulsion of Max BRODSKY from the Republic of Panama because of his Communist connections. Has participated in Pro-Peace (Communist-front) activities in Panama. Reportedly revising the FPJ platform along Marxist lines.

Jorge ILLUECA -

Deputy for the FRENTE PATRIOTICO DE LA JUVENTUD (FPJ) to the National Assembly of Panama. Has participated in Communist-front organization activities. One-time Panamanian representative to United Nations Committee for Freedom of Press and Radio.

Carlos Ivan ZUÑIGA

Student leader and member of the FRENTE PATRIOTICA DE LA JUVENTUD. Reported to be assisting in the revision of the platform of that organization along Marxist lines. Professed student of Marxism.

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Cesar QUINTERO -

Reported member of the Partido del Pueblo (Communist) of Panama, as well as a member of most leftist groups in this country. One of the founders of the FRENTE PATRIOTICO DE LA JUVENTUD.

Manuel Maria VALDES -

Director of the Spanish-language daily tabloid LA HORA. Long-time supporter of President Arnulfo ARIAS. Openly pro-Nazi during last war. Former Panamanian diplomat and head of Social Security of Panama. In July 1949, he was described by this embassy as "unscrupulous, opportunistic, immoral, and dishonest, as well as anti-American, and it may be expected that if an opportunity avails itself, he will endeavor in every way possible to attack and embarrass the United States." Recently named as Panamanian Ambassador to Ecuador.

Ricardo Alfredo LINCE Micolta -

Editor-in-Chief of LA HORA. Has been described by local intelligence agencies as ultra-nationalistic, a Nazi, and a rabid Arnulfista (supporter of President Arnulfo ARIAS). Has been involved in Arnulfista revolutionary activities in the past. Reportedly rabidly anti-U.S.

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